

COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

BUDGET SESSION OF 1101.

*Monday, the 18th of Karkadagam 1101.
2nd of August 1926.*

The Council met in the Town Hall, Ernakulam, at 11-30 a. m., on the 18th of Karkadagam 1101, corresponding to the 2nd of August 1926 with the President in the Chair. All the members except Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar and Messrs. Lonappan Chakkola, P. Munda Vaidyan, C. A. Ouseph, Paulo Mampilli, K. S. Rama Ayyar and K. Sankaran Nambuthiri were present.

President.—Now, we will commence the business of the day. The first item is Questions and Answers.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Accidents on account of increased motor bus service.

140. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware of the several accidents taking place in the State owing to increased motor bus service and the inadequate supervision of the Police on them ;

(b) whether their attention has been drawn to Press criticisms on the point ;

(c) whether there is any published rule in the State regarding the levy of fees for brake certificates, and if so, the exact terms of these rules ;

(d) whether the present Commissioner of Police or any other Officer used to receive any amount for such brake certificates ;

(e) whether any receipts used to be granted for such amount received ;

(f) the exact total of amounts so received up till now ;

(g) the technical qualifications, if any, possessed by the receiving officer or officers ;

(h) whether one and the same rate is levied for the brake certificates of cars and buses and the exact rates so levied ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur —(a) Accidents are very rare. The Police are exercising adequate control.

(b) No.

(c) Yes. (Vide the rules published at pages 283—287 of Part I of the Cochin Government Gazette, dated 2nd Kumbham 1101).

(d) Yes.

(e) No separate receipts are granted for any kind of fee under the Motor Vehicles Regulations.

(f) This is not a matter of public concern.

(g) None excepting the Police Commissioner's experience in the work.

(h) No fee is levied for taxi cars.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is not receiving public money a matter of public concern?

I want to know the total amount received by the Commissioner by issuing brake certificates.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Issuing of brake certificates and the receiving of fees has been sanctioned by the Government, and he is receiving it.

President.—Does any portion of that money go to the Treasury?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—No, Sir.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is he authorised to do so by any Government Proceedings?

President.—The brake certificate is issued by the Commissioner with the sanction of the Government and no money received for it belongs to the Government.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Has he any previous experience in the matter of issuing brake certificates before he became the Commissioner of Police here?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Anybody who is using a motor car for a number of years will be in a position to give a brake certificate. I have been using a car for a number of years, and I have got some experience.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I do not think a person who uses a motor car will be in a position to give a brake certificate.

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—Yes. Any one who knows about its working is competent enough to issue a brake certificate. After all, the issuing of a brake certificate is not constructing an engine.

President. To issue a brake certificate, it is enough if one understands something about the mechanism, and the Commissioner knows it.